iv. introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels, smart card based delivery of essential commodities; and

v. getting periodically evaluated functioning of TPDS.

Commission to PDS shop-owners

3084. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that owners of Public Distribution System (PDS) shops are receiving abysmally low commission;

(b) if so, the details and reasons in this regard; and

(c) the steps Government proposes to take to revise the commission of PDS shopowners so as to minimize pilferages etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) In order to maintain supplies and securing availability and distribution of essential commodities under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001, has been notified by the Government of India on 31st August, 2001. As provided under this, State Governments regulate functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs). For each FPS, a licence is issued and certain number of ration card holder families is attached to it. The State Governments issue foodgrains to Fair Price Shop licensees which they distribute to the attached rations cards holders.

In order to enable State/UT governments to increase the commission of the Fair Price Shops (FPS) licensees, since 2001 they have been given flexibility in fixing the commission.

Further, to make operations of fair price shops economically viable, the State Governments/UT Administrations have been advised to allow FPS licensees to enlarge basket of commodities sold by them by allowing sale of non-PDS items of daily use as per local requirement. By end of June, 2009, it has been reported by 23 State/UT Governments that the FPS owners are selling non-PDS items like edible oil, pulses, vanaspati ghee, milk powder, baby food, soaps, exercise books, butter, tea iodised salt and tooth paste, etc.

Rice and wheat at cheap rate

†3085. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether providing of rice and wheat at cheap rate of Rs. two/three per kg. has been implemented across States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of States with number of people and rate at which rice and wheat being provided to them;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the details of the subsidy being provided by the Centre for this programme, State-wise;

(d) whether the State Governments are properly using the subsidy being provided by the Centre; and

(e) the measures taken by the Central Government for its monitoring?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) As per present allocation norms, the Central Government makes allocation of foodgrains to States/UTs under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) families at subsidized rates. However, for the poorest of BPL covered under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), the allocations are made at highly subsidized Central Issue Prices of Rs. 3.00 per kg rice and Rs. 2.00 per kg wheat. These issue prices of rice and wheat under AAY are uniformly applicable in all States/UTs. The details of AAY families covered and monthly allocation of foodgrains made for them at these issue prices is given in the Statement (*See* below). The food subsidy provided under AAY is the difference between the economic cost of foodgrains to FCI and the issue prices charged from these families. The ratio of rice and wheat in allocations also affects the amount of subsidy. Lifting of allocated foodgrains by AAY families is monitored by obtaining reports and utilization certificates from State/UT Governments.

Statement

The details of AAY families covered and monthly allocation of foodgrains made for them at issue prices

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of AAY families covered (lakh)	Monthly allocation of foodgrains (July, 2009) (Rice and Wheat) (in thousand tons)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15.58	54.524
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.38	1.331
3.	Assam	7.04	24.641
4.	Bihar	24.29	84.999
5.	Chhattisgarh	7.19	25.162
6.	Delhi	1.50	5.257
7.	Goa	0.15	0.509
8.	Gujarat	8.10	28.340

1	2	3	4
9.	Haryana	2.92	10.235
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1.97	6.895
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.56	8.949
12.	Jharkhand	9.18	32.128
13.	Karnataka	12.00	41.991
14.	Kerala	5.96	20.855
15.	Madhya Pradesh	15.82	55.355
16.	Maharashtra	24.64	86.240
17.	Manipur	0.64	2.227
18.	Meghalaya	0.70	2.457
19.	Mizoram	0.26	0.910
20.	Nagaland	0.48	1.664
21.	Orissa	12.65	44.260
22.	Punjab	1.79	6.280
23.	Rajasthan	9.32	32.624
24.	Sikkim	0.17	0.578
25.	Tamil Nadu	18.65	65.262
26.	Tripura	1.13	3.960
27.	Uttar Pradesh	40.95	143.290
28.	Uttaranchal	1.51	5.293
29.	West Bengal	14.80	51.807
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.04	0.150
31.	Chandigarh	0.02	0.052
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.05	0.183
33.	Daman and Diu	0.02	0.053
34.	Lakshadweep	0.01	0.041
35.	Puducherry	0.32	1.129
	TOTAL:	242.75	849.631